

DECREE

Regarding the Partnering of St. Marys and Sacred Heart Parishes in St. Marys, Pennsylvania.

In light of ongoing pastoral planning in the Diocese of Erie, as well as demographic and population changes, and in consultation with Archabbot Martin R. Bartel, I hereby decree the following:

- 1. In accord with particular law of the Diocese of Erie, St. Mary Parish and Sacred Heart Parish, both in St. Marys, Pennsylvania, are to be partnered.
- 2. After having been presented to me by Archabbot Bartel on June 26, 2023 (canon 682 §1), I intend to appoint the Rev. Thomas Curry, O.S.B. to serve as Pastor to both parishes and the Rev. Thomas More Sikora, O.S.B., to serve as Parochial Vicar of both parishes.
- 3. As partnered parishes, St. Marys and Sacred Heart are to collaborate with each other as outlined in the particular law of the Diocese of Erie: *Implementation Guide for Partnered Parishes*.

This decree is effective September 20, 2023. Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Erie on this 11th day of August, 2023.

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL Bishop of Erie

Christopher J. Singer

The Reverend Christopher J. Singer, JCL Chancellor